

# **Washington State Patrol Media Release**

**Chief John R. Batiste**

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**\*\*\*For Immediate Release\*\*\***

**Date: April 5, 2006**  
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## **“Pedestrian Identified In Fatal Collision On April 1 In Pierce County”**

A Tacoma man was killed as he tried to cross the northbound lanes of Interstate 5 near the Tacoma Dome. Investigators are still unsure why he was trying to run across the freeway.

The April 1<sup>st</sup> incident occurred just after 5:00 P.M. when the State Patrol began to receive reports of a pedestrian being struck by a car northbound Interstate 5 (I-5) near the Tacoma Dome. Witnesses advise that 42 year-old Patrick Glenn Willhoite of Tacoma was attempting to cross the northbound lanes. Vehicles in the far right two lanes stopped abruptly to avoid hitting Willhoite. A 1993 Buick Century, driven by 26 year-old Stefanie Dawn Stredicke of Renton, was in the middle lane and did not see Willhoite and struck him as he ran in front of her car. Willhoite sustained life-threatening injuries and was transported to Tacoma General Hospital where he died from his injuries.

Investigators do not plan on filing Charges in this tragic collision and do not know why Willhoite was crossing the freeway.

**NEXT OF KIN HAS BEEN NOTIFIED**